GMA's Saudi mission targets—oil, OFWs, OIC

By Christine O. Avendaño

AWAY FROM POLITICAL DISTRACTIONS at home, President Macapagal-Arroyo intends to pursue the "three O's" during her visit to Saudi Arabia that was to begin last night—oil, the welfare of overseas Filipino workers and observer status for the Philippines in the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

GMA'S SAUDI/A13

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

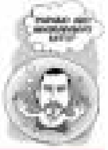
Monday, May 8, 2006 ★★ 6 sections / Vol. 21 / No. 149 P18

Water, water, for a week, no solid food for Blaine

NEW YORK—IT IS AS IF someone packed up the Coney Island of a century ago and sealed it on a fast-traveling subway car to Lincoln Center.

For there, now, is David Blaine, the modern-day Houdini whose latest stunt

WATER/A13



Batasan 5 free at last

A victory march, not a day of reckoning

By Michael Lim Ubac

AFTER 70 DAYS IN VIRTUAL LIMBO, the so-called "Batasan 5" lawmakers claimed victory yesterday.

[illegible]

A VICTORY/A13



TRIBUTE TO A FALLEN LEADER
Carrying a coffin, militants march around the Quezon Memorial Circle in Quezon City as they pay tribute to Enrico Cabanit, a Davao del Norte labor leader who was killed by still unidentified men on April 24. Cabanit was buried yesterday.

Gonzalez: Gov't won't play role in their script

By Christine O. Avendaño, Leila B. Salaverria and Dona Z. Pazzibugan

SAYING THEY DID NOT want to play into opposition hands, top Malacañang advisers yesterday backed down from their threat to arrest the so-called "Batasan 5" and said the party-list lawmakers were free to go home without fear of arrest—at least for now.

"We don't want to let these people succeed in dramatizing their situation ... They have a script and we don't want to play a role in it," Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez said.

[illegible]

BATASAN 5/A13

RP, Thai high courts check authoritarianism

By Amando Doronila

ANALYSIS

HIGH COURTS ARE STEPPING in to halt the tide of creeping authoritarianism in the Philippines and Thailand, where the democratization wave of the 1980s faces threats of reversal from the aggressive exercise of executive powers.

[illegible]

RP, THAI/A13

Malacañang urged to back off Aragoncillo case

By Philip C. Tubeza, Christine O. Avendaño and Michael Lim Ubac

SEN. JOKER ARROYO YESTERDAY advised Malacañang to stay clear of the case of Leandro Aragoncillo, who has been charged in the United States with passing classified information to ousted President Joseph Estrada and other local opposition politicians.

[illegible]

MALACAÑANG/A6

Ex-leper led bid for Culion town status

By Vola Contreras

CULION, PALAWAN—HE MAY HAVE CRIMPED fingers, but the school teacher deeply pointed the former leper colony on the right path out of decades of exclusion and social stigma.

[illegible]

EX-LEPER/A6



RIVERMAYA band members (from left) Rico Blanco, Japs Sergio, Marc Escueta and Mike Elgar pose with their MTV Asia Award for Favorite Artist-Philippines.

Rivermaya wins MTV Asia award

By Marinel R. Cruz
Entertainment Editor

RIVERMAYA, WHICH POPULARIZED songs like "Umaaraw, Umuulan," "Liwanag sa Dilim" and "Awit ng Kabataan," made history on Saturday at the 2006 MTV Asia Awards in Bangkok, becoming the first Filipino rock group to play in the award show's history.

[illegible]

RIVERMAYA/A13

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FRONT PAGE

‘Ruling could set back land reform’

A SUPREME COURT RULING COULD EXEMPT around 500,000 hectares of private and public lands claimed to be used as cattle-grazing areas from coverage of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program, a research and development group said.

Iloilo clergy against Cha-cha

Personal capacity

Candlelight vigil



WHY IT PAYS TO BE CAREFUL

‘Da Vinci Code’ only a thriller, says Sony

Exciting, entertaining

Unique opportunity

Contained clues

Most open-minded

Noli takes up cudgels for young Fil-Can

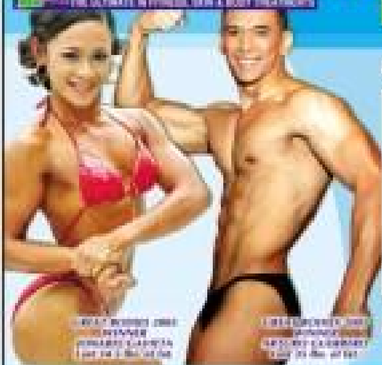




Leftists adopt their own protective measures



Rebel leader alive after all





Malacañang urged to back off Aragoncillo case

Lacson bristles

Estrada on defensive

Legal quicksand

Ex-leper led bid for Culion town status



FORMER Culion Mayor Hilarion Guia.

Prophetic

Among normal people

Political training

Chapel-to-chapel drive

‘Congress delaying Marcos funds’ release’

Ill-gotten wealth

Compromise talks

Customs raid on warehouses to yield ₱5M

By Leila B. Salaverria

Shopping malls

Inventory

17,000 to hit streets in gov’t jobs program

By Leila B. Salaverria

P500-M budget

Emergency employment

CHEd to ask schools to hold off increases

By Alcuin Papa

THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER Education (CHEd) will try to ask private colleges and universities ... [illegible]

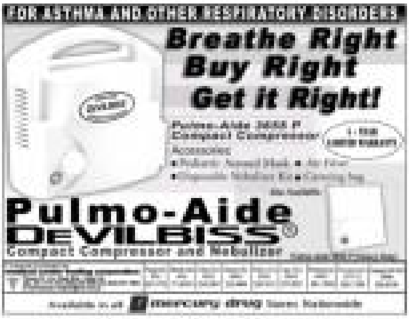


Correction

[illegible]

Soft drink firms dared to pull soda from schools

A MILITANT STUDENT GROUP HAS CHALLENGED ... [illegible]



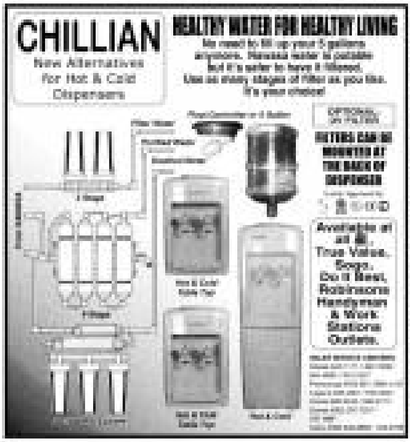


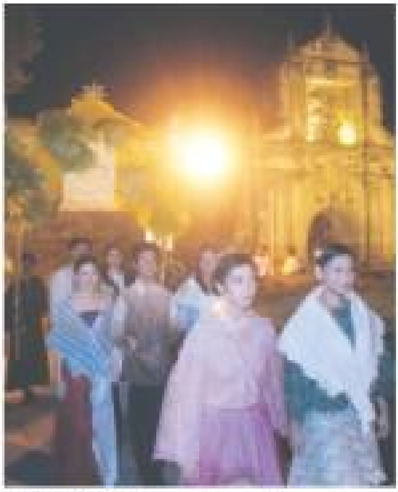


Not a good day for suspected Yakuza at Naia

[illegible]







THAT TIME OF YEAR

19 nabbed in Laguna 'shabu tiangge'



Batangas mayor padlocks town hall



THE DAILY GOSPEL

Australia sets job fair

Rivermaya wins MTV Asia award

From page A1

and former member of the Grammy-winning trio Destiny's Child.

According to band manager Lizza Nakpil, Rivermaya's performance had an "overwhelming response and was singled out for praise" from a lineup that included Korn, Hoobastank, Daniel Powter and Rowland.

MTV Asia's managing director Peter Bolland described Rivermaya's performance as "world class at the level of performances on any stage in the United States or Europe."

In its acceptance speech, Rivermaya dedicated its trophy to "all the bands and fans who have all worked so hard together to make 2006 another great year for Filipino music."

One for Philippines

"This one is for the Philippines," [illegible] said in an MTV interview before he went on stage to perform with his group.

Rivermaya also holds the distinction of being the only group to win the Favorite Group award from MTV Philippines for three years—2002, 2003 and 2005.

The group arrived in Bangkok on May 5 and will return to the Philippines on May 9.

The MTV Asia Awards took place at the 5,000-capacity theater of the Siam Paragon in Bangkok.

"The audience was composed of music industry professionals, media, record label representatives as well as fans from across the region," said Nakpil.

On Sunday night, Rivermaya performed in an exclusive club at the RCA entertainment strip in Bangkok, the band manager said.

Special award

"They have been offered additional play dates due to the overwhelming demand for tickets," she told the Inquirer.

R&B superstars Destiny's Child, which recently disbanded after a string of chart-topping hits, won a special achievement award for its contribution to international pop music.

Rowland, who accepted the award on Saturday night on behalf of the group, then thrilled about 4,000 fans with the first-ever live performance of her upcoming debut solo single, "Gonna Go."

Rowland and her ex-bandmates, Beyonce Knowles and Michelle Williams, disbanded last year to pursue solo careers. Just their MTV Asia Special Achievement in Music award was commemorating "their contributions to the music world and their immeasurable impact on pop culture," MTV Asia said in a statement on its website.

Canadian singer-songwriter Powter was among an array of Western and Asian stars who took the stage in Bangkok. Powter showed off his piano skills with a tender rendition of his worldwide smash ballad "Bad Day," which spent five weeks at No. 1 in the United States earlier this year.

"East meets West" was the theme for some performances. Thai hip-hoppers Thaitanium jammed with British pop heartthrob Simon Webbe, who won an award for Favorite Breakthrough Artist, to showcase his new single "No Worries."

'Twisted Transistor'

American rockers Korn, who kicked off the awards ceremony with a scorching performance of their hit "Twisted Transistor," took the trophy for Favorite Video for that song.

Other winners, determined by MTV viewers in Asia who voted through the Internet and cell phone text messages, included Green Day for Favorite Rock Act, Ricky Martin for Favorite Male and Kelly Clarkson for Favorite Female.

Vicki Zhao was named Favorite Artist for China, while Twins was deemed Hong Kong's most popular act.

Other regional winners were Jal for India, Peterpan for Indonesia, SeVen for Korea, Mawi for Malaysia, Taufik Batisah for Singapore, Wang Leehom for Taiwan and Tata Young for Thailand.

The MTV Asia awards show was broadcast to over 400 million households across the region over the weekend, organizers said.

Last year's MTV Asia Awards, also held in Thailand, doubled as an international fundraising concert for relief work in Asian countries devastated by the Dec. 26, 2004, tsunami disaster. *With an AP report*

Batasan 5 free again



THE Batasan 5 link arms during a recent appearance at the Department of Justice in Manila.

Call from JDV

No case

TRO sought

Media frenzy

No need to dance

Case still open

A victory march, not a day of reckoning

Call on the public

A happy homecoming

RP, Thai high courts check …

Weak opposition

Rare intervention

Unable to convene

Renewed protests seen



STUNT artist David Blaine, ...

Water, water, for a week, no solid food for Blaine

GMA's Saudi mission—3 O's

Keeping oil prices down

Peace in Mindanao

Meeting Pinoy communities

Business in Kuwait

Runaway Filipinos

Nationalize Petron

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION



Prospect of hanging

EDITORIALS

IF ANYONE STILL DOUBTS THE SERIOUSNESS of the spying case facing Leandro Aragoncillo in the United States, consider the circumstances that led to his admission of guilt. Aragoncillo, a naturalized American citizen who served in the Marine Corps, then in the office of Vice President Al Gore and his successor Vice President Dick Cheney, and then as an intelligence analyst with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, pleaded guilty to four charges—in order to escape the death penalty.

The first of the four charges, conspiracy to transmit national defense information, is punishable by death. But in the plea bargain he entered into with US authorities, Aragoncillo is looking at 15 to 20 years in prison. (The other charges are transmitting national defense information, unlawful retention of national defense information and unlawful use of a government computer.)

According to documents filed before the US District Court in Newark, New Jersey, Aragoncillo used his access to the White House and FBI information systems to pass on classified information to a clique of anti-Arroyo politicians, including deposed President Joseph Estrada, former Speaker Arnulfo Fuentebella and Sen. Panfilo Lacson.

His lawyer defended his actions as an act of patriotism: "It was his sole intention to help the people of the Philippines." But the government lawyer prosecuting the case attacked the Filipino-American's betrayal of his own oath of allegiance: Aragoncillo "took an oath to protect his country [as a Marine] and instead decided to betray his country. He took information that was very sensitive to our national security."

The spying occurred over several years, and it may have started with a visit Aragoncillo made to Malacañang in January 2001, just a few days before Estrada was ousted through People Power. It included passing on top secret data about "national defense information relating to terrorist threats to US military personnel in the Philippines."

Even though US government lawyers admit that the first charge did not result in the death of an intelligence source (the threshold violation that would have led to the electric chair), no one in the US government thinks that the spying case is any less important. Indeed, because the Bush administration is itself reeling from accusations of mishandling or at least allowing intelligence leaks for political gain, we should expect the US government to prosecute this case to the utmost.

In an almost perverse way, Aragoncillo's actions offer proof for those who have always sound skeptical about any dual citizenship law. In their view, divided loyalties prove ultimately unpatriotic.

Prospect of lynching

POOR EDUARDO NACHURA. THE NEW SOLICITOR general finds himself in the curious, perhaps ultimately untenable position of trying to stop a legal lynching. Immediately after ex-FBI analyst Leandro Aragoncillo pleaded guilty to four spying-related charges before a US court, our own secretary of justice wasted no time over the possibilities. With deposed President Estrada, former Speaker Fuentebella and Senator Lacson included in the case as "unindicted co-conspirators," Secretary Raul Gonzalez said he was considering filing rebellion charges against the three politicians. Presidential Chief of Staff Michael Defensor, never shy about seizing the political high ground, seconded the motion.

Enter Nachura. On Saturday he counseled restraint. While Aragoncillo may be guilty of acts inimical to the United States, he said, "we must determine whether it is also inimical to our own laws."

"There are perhaps different standards and different ways to look at this case," he added.

He also pointed out that Aragoncillo's admission did not mean that the other members of the alleged conspiracy were necessarily guilty. "Aragoncillo may have pleaded guilty but that does not necessarily mean that his plea of guilt will bind others implicated in the case. It all depends on what crimes they will be charged with." Or, indeed, whether an American citizen's crime of transmitting classified information necessarily makes a Filipino recipient a criminal, too.

But legal niceties have not stopped political operators like Gonzalez and Defensor from taking political advantage before. We doubt if a legal nice guy like the hapless Nachura can stop them now.

Salonga asks Palace to stop STL

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

MEDIA OUTLETS ARE FULL OF REPORTS that jueteng is back with a vengeance in many parts of the Philippines. This can only mean that the Small Town Lottery of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office, which was designed to replace jueteng, has again failed.

STL had been tried before, during the Aquino administration, but it turned out to be a resounding failure. It did not eradicate jueteng; it, in fact, only helped jueteng to proliferate, and only the STL operators and jueteng lords and some government officials made a lot of money. President Aquino stopped it as a "failed experiment."

Nevertheless, the PCSO is now experimenting with it—again, even in places that did not have jueteng before and where the people and local governments, like in Quezon City, do not want STL. "Since jueteng is not allowed and does not exist in Quezon City," said Mayor Feliciano Belmonte, "there is no reason why STL should be allowed to operate in Quezon City."

But such is the disorderliness of gambling operations that a private company with a franchise to operate STL in Quezon City has the temerity to sue Belmonte, the chief of the city police and the head of the business permits division for damages. Before anybody can operate a business anywhere, he must first get a business permit from the mayor's office.

The private company said it would lose the P33 million it paid the PCSO to get an STL franchise if it would not be allowed to operate in Quezon City. Well, it should run after the PCSO if it wants to recover money or get a franchise in another place where government and residents welcome STL.

Former Senate President Jovito Salonga, the moving spirit behind Kilosbayan and its sister organization, Bantay Katarungan, has written a letter to Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita expressing his groups' opposition to STL.

During his term, President Ramos launched a Moral Recovery Program. Paradoxically, he embraced and sponsored online lotto, with the participation of a Malaysian company incorporated in the Philippines. Salonga recalled that the Malaysian company entered into a lease contract with the PCSO, which made the same pitch—the elimination of jueteng.

"Outraged by the idea that government itself would engage in gambling," Salonga recalled, "Kilosbayan went to the Supreme Court ... 1994 and won its first case in the divided court."

Now the PCSO is trying the same trick with STL. In his letter to Ermita, Salonga said STL, which will go nationwide, "is a crime against public morals, and punishable under the Revised Penal Code Book Two, Title Six, Articles 195 and 196. The scheme, supposedly to get added revenues for the government, does not make it less condemnable since (1) it is the masses of our people who will bear the brunt of subsidizing and paying for the operation, and (2) it is the government itself—which should be the role model for all its citizens—that will be perpetuating the offense.

"It is axiomatic," he continued, "that the government, to be effective, should lead by example so it can deserve the people's trust and confidence. A government that engages in gambling, and profits by it, loses its moral authority and corrupts itself in the eyes of its own people. Our Supreme Court has consistently condemned gambling as 'a national offense,' not a mere minor transgression.

"Given the weaknesses in the Filipino character—our lack of discipline, our lack of concern for the common good, and our weak work ethic—the wise observation of the Supreme Court in the case of El Debate v. Topacio bears special relevance and should be heeded by our people, especially our high officials," Salonga continued. "Experience has shown," said the high court, "that the common forms of gambling are comparatively innocuous when placed in contrast with the widespread pernicious influence of lotteries. The former are confined to a few people and places, but the latter infest the whole community, they enter every dwelling, they reach every class, they prey upon the hard-earned wages of the poor, they plunder the ignorant and simple."

"It is no accident that in places where gambling is openly encouraged by the government—whether in Nevada or in Atlantic City or in Macau, near Hong Kong—smuggling, organized crime and prostitution are rampant, illiteracy and human [illegible] widespread, corruption is endemic and the economy is stagnant," Salonga said. "Gambling does not add one whit to a nation's productivity. The experience in those places teaches us one valuable lesson—gambling creates only low-wage service jobs that eventually drag the country's economy down."

Regarding the charity projects of the PCSO and other government agencies, Salonga quoted the editorial of the [illegible]: "Charity should never become the occasion for criminality and should never be used to cover up immorality—thereby giving rise to false hopes and an attitude of dependency."

"It is our understanding," he said, "that PCSO has now been placed directly under the President. We, therefore, appeal to you [Ermita], in the long-term interest of our people, to cease and desist from carrying out this illegal and immoral scheme to run and operate the STL on a nationwide basis.

"Under Section 5 (a) of RA 6713, otherwise known as the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public officials, you and your office are 'under the obligation to act promptly on letters and requests,' such as this particular letter-request, 'within fifteen (15) days from receipt thereof,' and 'the reply must contain the action taken on the request.'"

The letter was sent April 3, 2006. On April 10, Malacañang sent a reply that "we are conducting a careful study of the issues and concerns raised in [the] letter."

3-0

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

THE PROBLEM IS NOT WITH THE SUPREME Court decisions, the problem is with the way Malacañang is spinning them. [illegible]

[illegible]

The 'takeover' provision



SOUNDING BOARD

Fr. Joaquin G. Bernas, S.J.

Academic noise

COMMENTARY

Evelyn Mejillano, HSD

Dealing with child labor

COMMENTARY

'Calabasa' gets a call



THE LONG VIEW

Manuel L. Quezon III

THEY SAID

Oppressing employers

Holy ground

Where is Davide's 'delicadeza'?

LETTERS

Home is still De Quiros' RP

DAR appalled by Unorka accusation

Artistic cruelty to animals like a live 'Guyito'

A plebiscite without involving gov't

Are we to blame for migrating?

CAN WE EVER ROOT OUT CORRUPTION?

By Francisco S. Tatad



[illegible]

[illegible]

> "Because those in power try to keep power at all costs, the electoral process and the general system of accountability, including impeachment of impeachable officers, are perverted, and the theft of public office becomes a larger crime than the usual theft in public office."

[illegible]

> "Political corruption corrupts our politics, but corruption of the truth about the human person corrupts the whole person, and his relationship with everybody else, including his Creator. We must insist on that truth, for without it, there can be no peace, justice, or freedom. And no democracy either."

[illegible]

SUERTRES
EZ2
Across the NATION
SUPERLOTTO 6/49
₱40,728,848.40

Top DPWH exec exposes ₱153-M financial scam

By Rolando O. Borrinaga
PDI Visayas Bureau

TACLOBAN CITY—THE TOP OFFICIAL OF THE Department of Public Works and Highways here took it upon himself to expose a financial scam right in his own turf.

WHAT'S INSIDE



Quezon solon slams Tagaytay 5 'torture'

Road project engineer angers Leyte mayor

By Joel Arnado
PDI Visayas Bureau

Agta folk flee from AFP operations



BEAST OF BURDEN
The carabao gets no break as a beast of burden during the Carabao-Carroza Parade and Race at the 33rd Carabao-Carroza Festival in Pavia, Iloilo.

1 killed, 6 hurt in misencounter

Owners of sunken ship can't hide behind law–SC

Gov't reviews peace pact with Balweg militia



FRUIT FOR THE THIRSTY

ROUNDUP

Dilapidated patrol cars



Volunteer cops in Legazpi

Job fairs in Bicol

New SC administrator

"Face-off with Fear"



MILF tells mining companies to leave its 'territories'

Luisita farmers feud over land ownership plan

Legitimate

Thick skin

Five titles

Foiled STL project opens door to Vizcaya 'jueteng'

BUS COMPANIES, TOO

Jeepney operators nix fare increase



BUDDHIST FETE

Total raises gas prices

Search for 26 seamen suspended

Inquirer's HIP magazines jive, sizzle and score











A plus **METRO**
Editor: Ester G. Dipasupil

Public warned vs cheap, plastic electric fans

By Margaux C. Ortiz and Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

IT MAY BE CHEAPER BUT IT could cost you more in the long run. Worse, it might even kill you and your family.

Manila firefighters yesterday warned against the use of unbranded electric fans following the fire that razed a two-story house in the Sta. Cruz area on Saturday.

SFO1 Emmanuel Gaspar of the Manila Fire Department said the fire that destroyed the house at [illegible] and San Lazaro Street may have been caused by an "unbranded, plastic fan."

Not for heavy duty

"This kind of electric fans, usually imported from China and sold at very cheap prices, are not meant for heavy duty use," Gaspar told the Inquirer in a phone interview.

The heat that has been plaguing the metropolis for the past few months may lead to careless use among some city residents that could result in overheated fans, the fire official said.

"Failing to turn off these fans could cause them to overheat and result in fire incidents," Gaspar said.

Witnesses told the arson investigator that occupants of the house [illegible] the electric fan inside one of the rooms.

The fire, which began at 2:48 p.m., reached the fourth alarm and destroyed P500,000 worth of property before it was put under control, Gaspar said.

"Owners should also make sure that their electric fans are well-maintained and cleaned regularly," the fire official said.

In Marikina, Chief Insp. Antonio Rasul, the city's fire marshal, urged residents to hire licensed electricians when setting up their house's electrical connections.

Get professional help

"Doing it yourself might cost less, but it can also cause fires," Rasul warned yesterday.

He said the two fires which hit two subdivision areas in the city this week, razing almost 10 houses and P8 million worth of property, were both electricity-related.

"To save money, some home owners, especially in subdivisions, no longer hire licensed electricians. Their electrical connections are not done properly," Rasul said in Filipino.

The first fire left 43 families homeless in [illegible], Barangay Concepcion Dos on Thursday. On Saturday, a fire razed nine houses and partially damaged five others in [illegible], also in Barangay Concepcion Dos.



CITY FISHERMAN
A man casts his fishing net at the Manggahan floodway in Pasig. The manmade canal has become a source of livelihood for residents who live alongside the waterway.

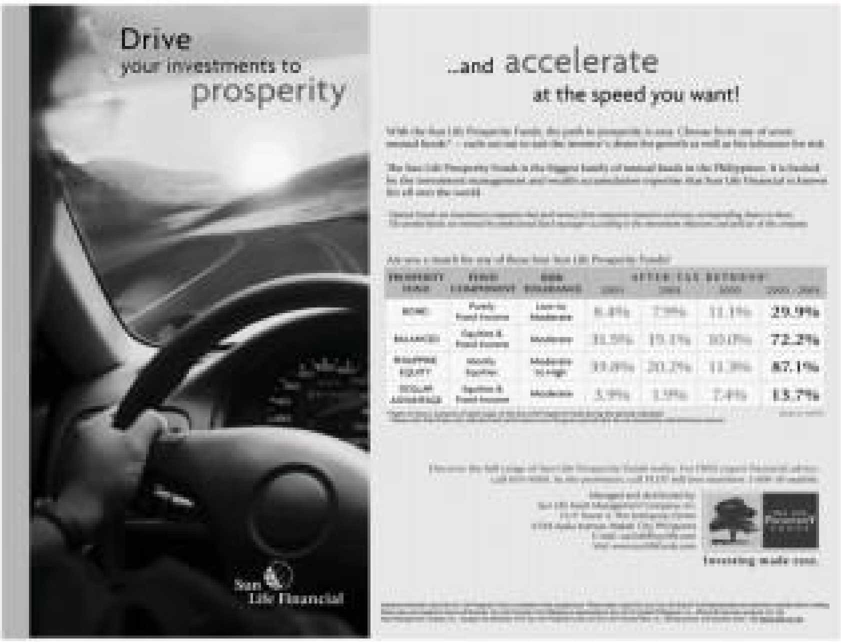
Criminology student killed in QC

By DJ Yap

HE HAD BARELY BEGUN HIS studies in fighting criminals when he became a victim of a crime himself.

Reynel Almeda, a 17-year-old criminology freshman at the University of Manila, was stabbed dead after getting into an argument with his neighbor in Quezon City on Saturday.

[illegible]





82 bird species find sanctuary on UP campus

Diverse habitats at Diliman ideal for nesting, says Wild Bird Club of the Philippines



A LONG-TAIL shrike, one of the various species that can be found inside the university.

More bird sightings

People lover

Escaped pets



DR. BENJAMIN Vallejo Jr. (right) and research associate Alexander Alay looking for urban birds in the UP campus.



THE SAVANNA Nightjar bird which was sighted near a creek in the campus.

MetroBriefs

Woman tries to kill self

QC ready for rains

No model employee

Seminar on NGOs

Check all fire hydrants

Grand homecoming

DENR: We must ensure protection of birds

Marikina sees more bikers

Street art kicks off Makati's Mother Earth celebration



Larger than life

Traffic rerouting

Quezon Memorial Circle offers activities for kids, adults

China defies Pope, ready to ordain another bishop



A CHINESE faithful prays at the ... Catholic Church in Beijing Sunday, May 7.

WorldBriefs

47 die in India heat wave

Tough times for embattled Tony Blair

South Africa's explosive Zuma rape trial

FBI detains 3 foreigners on US airliner

Israeli police, settlers clash in Hebron



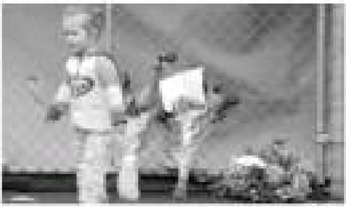
Spy boss Goss mum about abrupt exit

Singapore's ruling party gets landslide vote in poll



EXULTANT Singapore Prime Minister and head of the People's Action Party, Lee Hsien Loong.

12 days trapped in mine, and still counting



A GIRL leaves flowers at the entrance to the Beaconsfield gold mine where two miners, Todd Russell and Brant Webb, have been trapped underground for 12 days in Beaconsfield, Australia, May 7.

The WORLD



WORLD PRESS PHOTO OF THE YEAR

30 die in Iraq blasts; UK chopper downed

BAGHDAD—CAR BOMBS KILLED 30 PEOPLE IN IRAQ on Sunday and wounded more than 70 in one of the bloodiest spasms of violence of recent weeks as political leaders closed in on a deal to form a national unity government.

Old habits die hard in graft-prone S. Korea

By Lim Chang-won



SPORTS





ASIAN F3 ROUND 2

Fiery Sy makes it two in a row

PAGE A30

2006 AF3 Series

Reyes tops Vietnam pool with a flourish

Whips China's Li in finals

HO CHI MINH CITY—EFREN "BATA" REYES outsmarted and outshot China's Li Hewen, 11-6, in the finals Sunday to claim the first leg of the San Miguel Asian 9-Ball Tour and pocket the $10,000 champion's purse at the jam-packed Nguyen Du Sports Hall.









Bulls hold off Phone Pals

Fiery Sy makes it two in a row with Round 2 victory



PSC seeks upgrade as Palaro gets under way



WINNING RUN

Nat'l U-17 tourney kicks off

Spring Oil five stretches win streak to eight

Why Mayol bungled his world title bid



Ringside

Recah Trinidad

Jackson no longer comfy in Phoenix

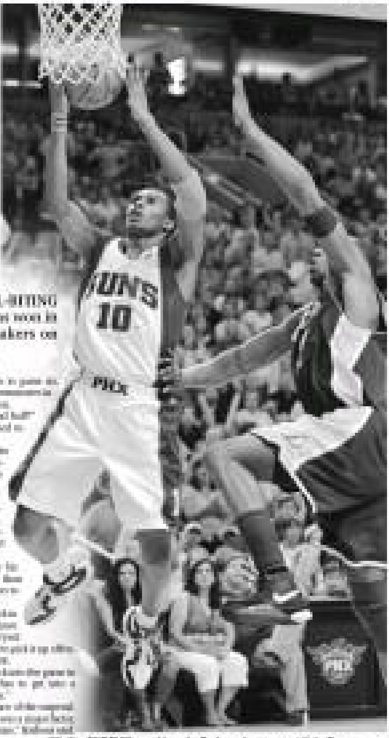


BRYANT

COMEBACK COMPLETE

Suns boot out listless LA Lakers

PHOENIX, ARIZONA—SO MUCH FOR THE NAIL-BITING suspense of a Game 7. The fast, feisty Phoenix Suns won in a 121-90 laugher over the listless Los Angeles Lakers on Saturday night.



PHOENIX guard Leandro Barbosa shoots against Kobe Bryant.

Almazan tops table tennis tilt

Dela Cruz leads SM tilt winners



SCHUMACHER

Schumacher tops home GP

NBC hoops: Pangasinan halts Pagadian

A dream comes true for a hero and his horse







BARBARO, with jockey Edgar Prado in the irons, races to the Kentucky Derby finish line; Jennifer Love Hewitt (upper right) and supermodel Petra Nemcova (lower right) were among the second-largest crowd in Churchill Downs history.



Payton stars as A's freeze Devil Rays

Last word is 'Golden'

De La Hoya silences foul-mouthed Mayorga

LAS VEGAS—THE GOLDEN Boy still has the luster.



Ramirez jumps gun on Coseteng



RAMIREZ

National age-group golf finals Tuesday

Stanford pads lead to 4 shots with 66

World Cup 2006: US finally stands tall; intimidates opponents

Wie finishes way out of title hunt in Korea



Furyk gives himself yet another chance



PUP tossers take Petron title

Next racing czar should know his ABC

CLEAN LIVING



Rotary golf grand finals tees off May 10

SPORTSWATCH

70 fights up at PCAP 3-cocker today

HK Olympian sinks Subic rivals

Lee attacks early to claim third crown; Japanese bet rules women's race

By Jasmine W. Payo

SUBIC, ZAMBALES—HONG KONG'S DANIEL Lee Chi-wo felt no need to look over his shoulder.

Lee, the lone Olympian in the elite field, displayed strength, confidence and swagger yesterday to dominate the 12th Laguna-Subic Bay International Triathlon here.

"I expected it early," the lean, 29-year-old Lee proudly said after the arduous 1.5K swim-40K bike-10K run competition that started and wound up at the SBMA boardwalk.



Pulling away in the cycling, Lee ruled the race in 2 hours, 3 minutes and 14 seconds for his third victory in the prestigious annual event.

"Everyone stayed together, and I decided to press for the run," said Lee, a veteran of the 2004 Athens Olympics. "I ran pretty well. I started with a constant pace until I was up by nearly a minute."

Second-placer Yuki Hiramatsu of Japan tried to keep up, but was no match in the foot race against Lee.

"His running was better than mine," conceded Hiramatsu of the Hong Kong bet, who also triumphed here in 2003 and 2005.

The 25-year-old Hiramatsu clocked 2:09.10, over a minute ahead of teammate Satoshi Inoue who timed 2:10.43.

Japan did not fall short in the women's division, however, as Satomi Ohrochi won with a time of 2:26.37.

The 24-year-old Ohrochi pulled away right in the first lap of the run but encountered difficulty negotiating the bike route in the Subic Boardwalk hills.

SC Laoigh came home four minutes behind the Japanese in second spot—the best finish by a Filipino in the competition.


JAPAN'S Satomi Ohrochi (right) finishes the 1.5km swim leg ahead of the Philippines' Lea Coline Laoigh in the Laguna-Subic International Triathlon.

"I was able to keep pace with [Ohrochi] in the bike leg because I'm familiar with the course," said Laoigh. "I tried to keep pace with her [in running], but it was hard."

The 19-year-old Laoigh, a member of La Salle's swim team, timed 2:30:06, way ahead of third placer and teammate Mikel Lucas (2:39:57).

The Philippines' women campaigners, including Southeast Asian Games medalists Sandra Arcilla and Arlette Lacro, skipped the race due to injuries.

National champion Arland Macasieb surprisingly competed despite a shin injury but could only muster a 14th place finish in the men's race.

Legend International Resorts CEO Khoo Boo Boon sent off the 243 entries from Japan, Hong Kong, the Philippines, New Zealand, Australia and the Netherlands.

Reigning teen champions Jonah Serrano (1:09:23) and Kim Mangrobang (1:19:05) ruled the junior male and female sprint, while Ironman (1:23:48) topped the adult sprint. Polo Team won the team event with a cumulative time of 10:03.23.

Alonso takes pole in Euro prix

NURBURGRING, Germany — Renault's Fernando Alonso was fastest in the qualifying round and took the pole for the European Grand Prix Saturday at the Nurburgring circuit.







Entertainment



NANCY Castiglione: Maybe he changed his mind.

Fast-track screenings for RP 'Idol' start May 12

Inside

So what's up, John?

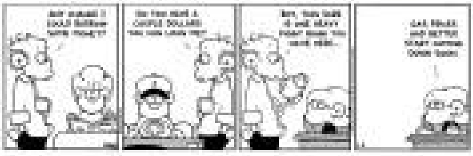
By Marinel R. Cruz

Before

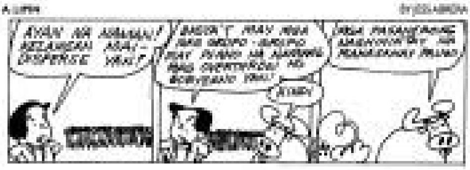


Ethel Booba: That's unfair

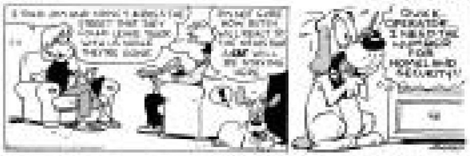
FOXTROT BY BILL AMEND



A. LIPIN



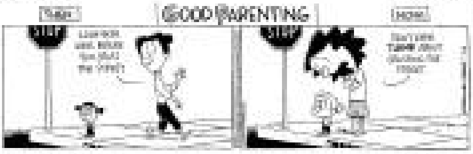
MARVIN BY TOM ARMSTRONG



PUGAD BABOY

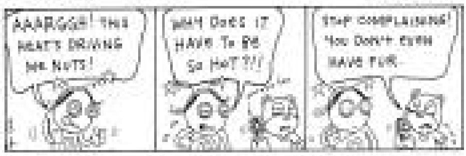


BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT



MUTTS BY PATRICK McDONNELL



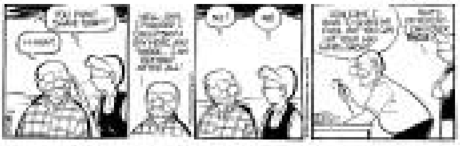


DIVINE COMEDY





BEN BY DANIEL SHELTON



KIKO MACHINE



LOVEKNOTS



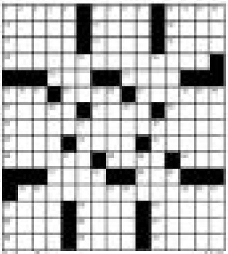
TULDOK

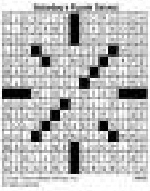


Horoscope

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

Daily Crossword

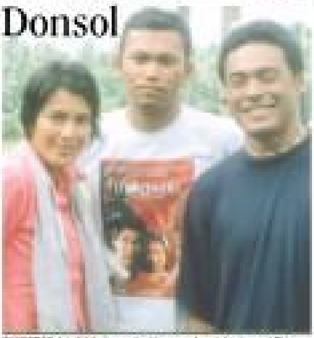




A passage to Donsol

By Valerie Cruz, Contributor

[illegible]



DIRECTOR Adolf Alix (center) with actors Angel Aquino and Sid Lucero

Friendship

[illegible]

Tongue twister

[illegible]

Hard part

[illegible]

Feedback

About ratings

From Darlo Torres, Quezon City

[illegible]

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

CINEMA ACCESS 635-5555 FOR ALL BRANCHES

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA

1 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3 - THX
6 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
2 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
7 THE WILD
3 THE SENTINEL
8 SLITHER
4 PAMAHIIN
9 PAMAHIIN
5 AQUAMARINE
10 WHEN A STRANGER CALLS

ERMITA

1 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
2 SLITHER
5 THE SENTINEL
3 THE WILD
WHEN A STRANGER CALLS
6 AQUAMARINE
4 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
7 SILENT HILL

METRO EAST

1 SLITHER
5 THE WILD
2 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
6 WHEN A STRANGER CALLS
3 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
7 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
4 SILENT HILL
8 THE SENTINEL

NOVALICHES

1 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
2 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
3 SILENT HILL
4 D' LUCKY ONES
5 THE SENTINEL
6 SLITHER

CITISQUARE MALABON

1 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
2 PAMAHIIN
3 RESERVE
4 RESERVE

PIONEER

1 THE WILD
2 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
3 AQUAMARINE
4 SILENT HILL

STA. ROSA

1 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
2 BASIC INSTINCT 2
3 NANNY MCPHEE
4 THE SENTINEL

LIPA

1 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
2 THE WILD
3 LUCKY NUMBER SLEVIN
4 TRISTAN AND ISOLDE
5 BASIC INSTINCT 2

DASMARIÑAS

1 JUST FRIENDS
2 SLITHER
3 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
4 SHE'S THE MAN

ANGELES

1 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
2 SLITHER
3 NORTH COUNTRY
4 THE HILLS HAVE EYES

IMUS

1 SILENT HILL
2 SLITHER
3 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
4 AMERICAN SOLDIERS

STARMILLS

1 SLITHER
2 NORTH COUNTRY
3 THE HILLS HAVE EYES
4 GRANDMA'S BOY
5 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
6 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3

BACOLOD

1 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
2 THE WILD
3 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
4 BASIC INSTINCT 2
5 JUST FRIENDS
6 FINAL DESTINATION 3

ILOILO

1 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
2 THE WILD
3 SILENT HILL
4 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
5 GRANDMA'S BOY
6 TIGER BLADE

Cruising on overdrive

VIEWFINDER



Nestor U. Torre

AXN premieres

Four Aces

'Wow, Bata'

Pupil

Dogs trained to sniff for bootleg DVDs

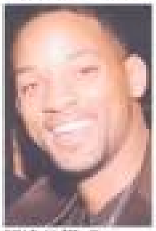
DID YOU KNOW...

"WORTH EVERY PE



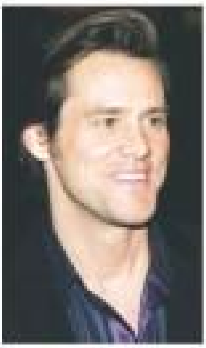








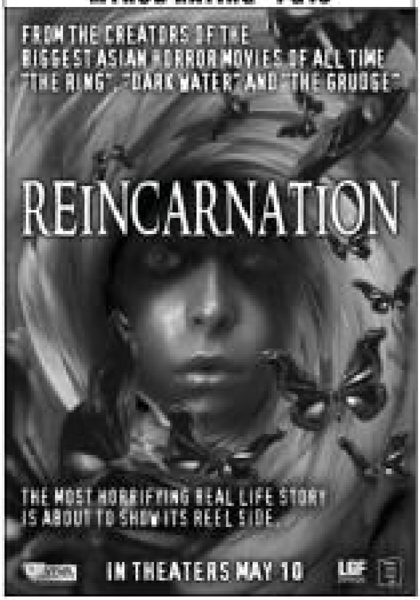
US box-office returns ... delivers for his $25-...



UK-made 'L

Recalling







...Hanks, $25 million

...s show Hanks ...M fee per film

[illegible]

> So do Will Smith, Brad Pitt and Reese Witherspoon ...at their own salary levels... but Jim Carrey is floundering

[illegible]

AFP

...assie' premieres in US

[illegible]

CHEER FACTOR

Unexpected

[illegible]

Giuliani for president? No way, docu says



FORMER New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani

So what's up, John?

Ethel Booba: That's unfair



AT THE CINEMAS

At the Activity Center

GLORIETTA

AYALA CENTER CEBU

MARKET! MARKET!





Life outside the house

'PBB' director and counselor say the teen housemates need longer debriefing





Joyce Jimenez, graduate



JOYCE Jimenez

Not so happy

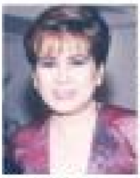
5th honeymoon

How it happened



Contender

Comfy package



ANNABELLE Rama



MICKEY Mouse

Preschoolers, meet Mickey & the gang

All present

Fun recap

Faust reunites for 'Homecoming'



Today

May 10

May 11

May 12

May 13

May 16

May 17

May 18

May 19

May 20

May 21

May 24

May 26



So what's up, John?



WITH Basil Valdez, Freestyle and Side A bands in "Tenors on the Square"



"HE'S MY archangel," says Maricel Soriano.

The Godfather

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

Show biz bigwig Wyngard Tracy used to be a workhorse called 'production assistant'—just like Noli de Castro, Charo Santos and Wilma Galvante ...



FROM the ex-workhorse's mouth: "They say I'm a tyrant."



YESTERDAY

Take it from Tracy



TAKING Aiko Melendez to meet her groom, Martin Jickain, in February.



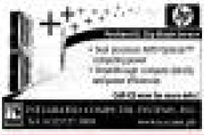
More tales



"WE WALK side by side," says Basil.

Secret language





BUSINESS



Q1 debt service bill runs up to ₱279B

THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT spent ₱279.364 billion in the first quarter of the year to service its debts—64 percent higher than what it originally planned under the 2006 fiscal program.

BSP receives fair mark in JP Morgan report

CURRENCIES



STOCK MARKET





Gov't seeks $310-M loan from World Bank

For health, education projects

Q1 debt service bill . . .

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Death by dissipation

COCKTALES

Victor C. Agustin

Cocktales ...

Money-go-round

Heard through the grapevine

Getting out of the governance trap

NO FREE LUNCH



Cielito F. Habito

Paying peanuts

Weak finances

Full circle

Breaking out

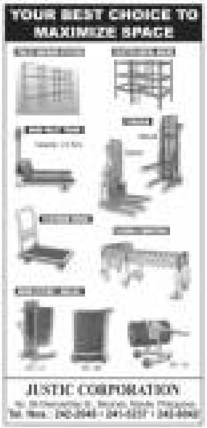
Market . . .

From page B1

Globe gets tax perks for P5.48-B 3G venture

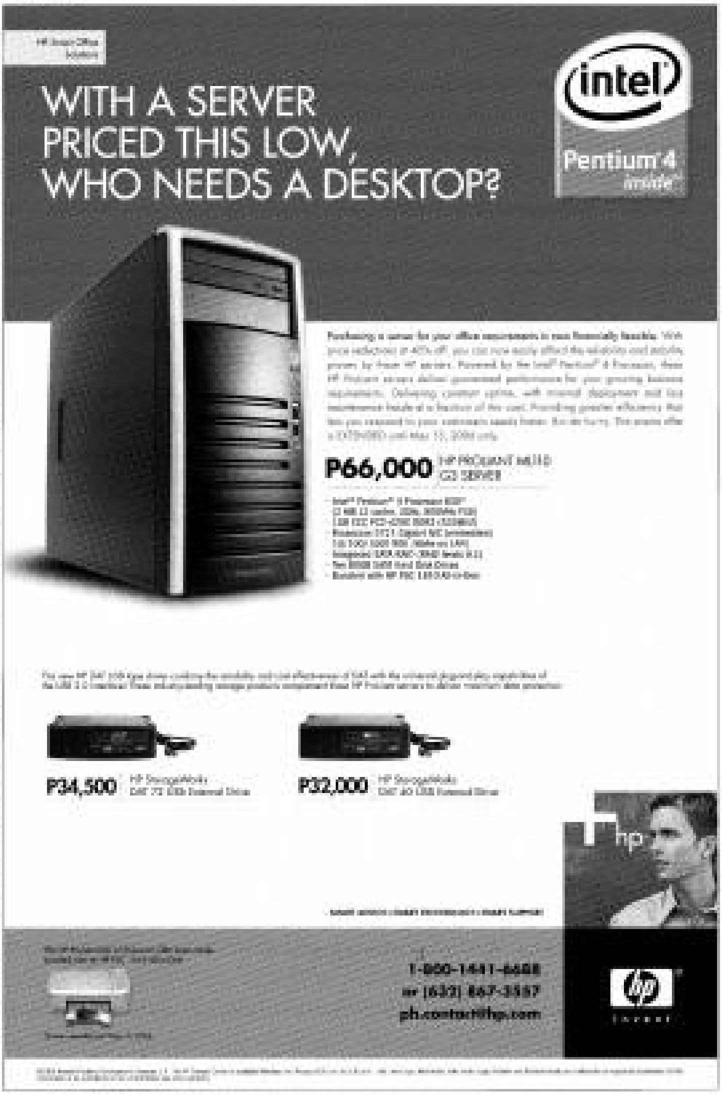
Six-year income tax holiday, duty-free importation of capital goods





Biodiesel firm eyes bigger plant, plans to go public

New technology player in state visit



Justice department backs SEC move to file criminal raps vs pre-need execs

UBP continues search for fresh acquisitions

BSP gets a fair mark in JP Morgan report

HIGHLIGHTS OF CONSOLIDATED OPERATIONS

REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND RESERVES

Crew Gold infusing $20M in Apex for mining asset rehab

Raising Masara mine capacity in next 2 years



Cebu Pacific offers off-peak fare discounts



MONETARY BOARD MEMBERS UNDERGO GOOD GOVERNANCE SESSIONS

Local poultry firm inks deal with halal certifying agency

A step to penetrate multi-billion-dolllar market

SSS: Fighting corruption from within

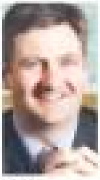
QUESTIONS OF POLICIES



TIM, partner offer fraud detection tool for banks

MOVEMENTS

Citibank's new business manager



JONES

UPS names new head for RP unit



SARKAR

Importation of 300,000MT of corn pushed

Cheaper service critical to 3G's success, says Nokia exec





10 MNCs setting up regional offices in RP

More perks for insurance, pre-need sectors sought

Study shows banks getting more incentives

Pure Foods posted 80% jump in income to P1B last year

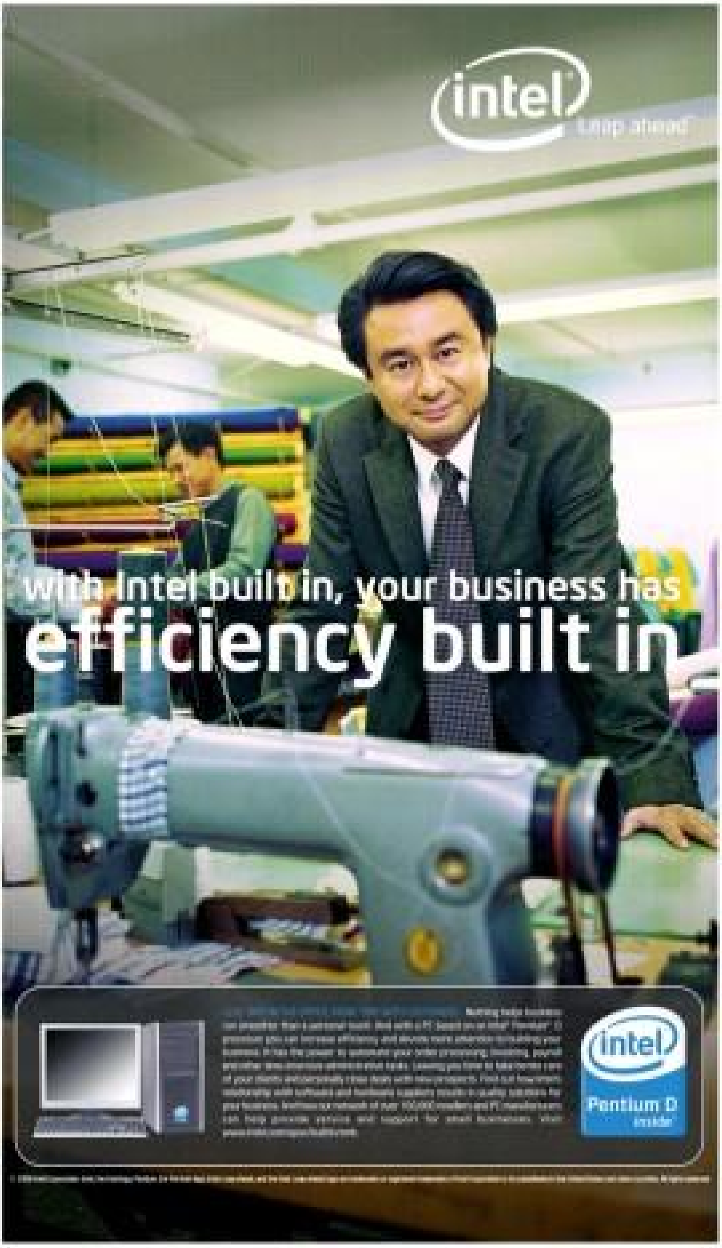
Promoting tourism by preserving nature



BOON

CORPORATE CITIZEN

NTC to revoke licenses of operators violating SMS spam rules



InfoTech

Filipino pleads guilty to hacking, faces imprisonment

By Erwin Lemuel Oliva
Contributor

25 E-commerce law violation cases lined up

By Erwin Oliva
Contributor

Hailing a cab through text messaging

Can't find a cab in Makati? Use your cellphone and text for one

By Erwin Oliva
Contributor

Globe offers commercial '3.5G'

By Erwin Oliva
Contributor

BUSINESS *Monday*

Churning out $6B worth of ideas yearly

To ensure consumers get best technology

By Stella O. Gonzales

[illegible]

Maturing lab

[illegible]

Preparing employees for life after retirement

[illegible]

Contributory plan

[illegible]

Noncontributory plan

[illegible]

From employment to retirement

[illegible]





Reflections on the mining issues

MAPping THE FUTURE



Churning out $6B worth of ideas yearly

Looking for talent

Eager researchers

Right technology



Preparing employees for life ...

Ties after retirement

Workaholic CEO keeps staff on toes

The value of change

Pili nut: More than just for eating

Production

Non-food applications

Market and economy

Electronics firm posts big gains in RP market



BUSINESS Monday

Workaholic CEO keeps staff on toes

By Christine A. Gopilcor



DAVID

Golden Boy

Replacing complacency

A LEADER'S WAY

John C. Maxwell



PHILIPPINES is all there for the seeing /C2

LIFESTYLE



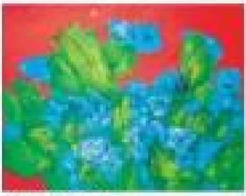






All 16 Filipino works were bidded out and fetched high prices. The auction house says the feat was 'incredible' and showed international demand for Filipino art is growing

Pinoy works shine in Sotheby's Easter auction



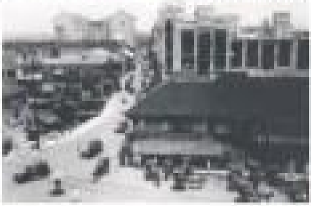










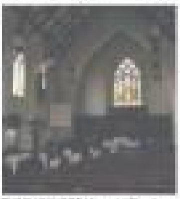


Filipino cultural greatness is there for the seeing

PRIDE OF PLACE

Augusto F. Villalon

Make summer the perfect occasion to travel around Manila and the rest of the country, appreciating Filipino sights and sounds



UST hosts international course on cultural conservation

VISUAL ARTS





Photo exhibit on Spanish colonial lighthouses

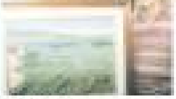
Various artists at De las Islas

Art workshop

Mother's Day exhibit



Hidalgo at Pasig Museum



Bulacan artists









"MOTHER and Child"

Recycled art



"WINDOW Series: To the Rescue"



RIBBON-CUTTING ceremonies with guests

E-mail author at gdiamante@pinoy.com

Farley del Rosario and Palma Tayona at Choice Expression





"JUST the Two of Us," by Farley del Rosario



"SAFE and Sound"



"THE SOUND of Luck"



"STARRY Night"

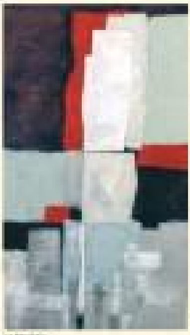
Recycled art

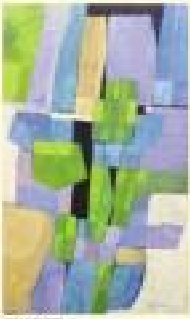


"SUMILABAS at Maganda" (pulp and recycled paper)



"AQUATIQUE dreams"



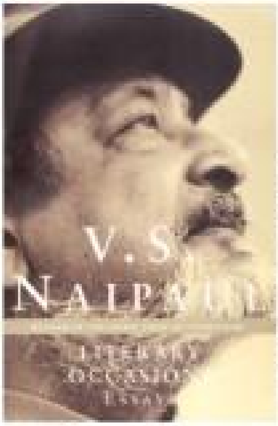


Cosmopolitan abstractions

LIFESTYLE



Nobel laureate's special 'Occasions'



V.S. Naipaul takes the aspiring writer on a tour of the secret civilization that is his body of works

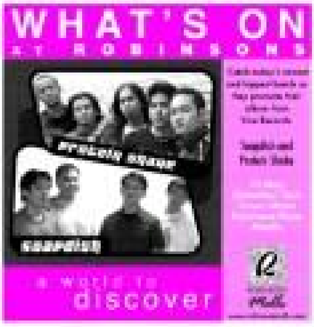


By Raul S. De Vera

"Literary Occasions: Essays"

DIFFERENT DREAMS PROPEL different lives. Sometimes it is chosen early; sometimes it is chosen for them.



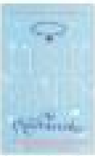




Reading list



'Chloe Does Yale'



'The Matchbreaker'



'Grip'

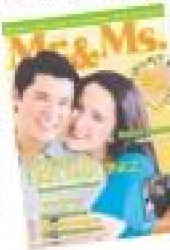
'When Good Things Happen to Bad Boys'





Travel promo

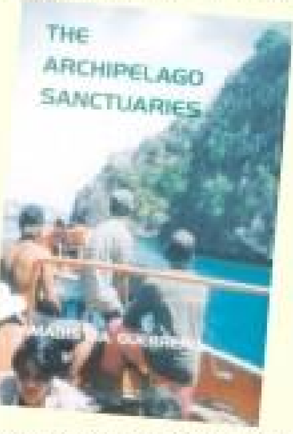
Mr. & Ms. honors moms in May issue



MR. & MS., THE "SUPER-monthly of the body, mind, and spirit," pays tribute to mothers in its May issue.

A lesson on travel as well as writing

By Constantino C. Tejero



Total wellbeing

A natural gem

Nobel laureate's special 'Occasions'

Intricate relationships

Auditions at Tanghalang Pilipino





Full-color Boracay guidebook



Top stars come out in Metro and Metro hiM's latest issues



THE MAY ISSUE OF Metro Magazine features the jewels of ABS-CBN's Star Magic—Claudine Barretto, Bea Alonzo, Kristine Hermosa, Angelica Panganiban, Shaina Magdayao and Maja Salvador—with television director and talent developer Johnny Manahan on the cover.

[illegible]

Top guns

[illegible]





"A SCORCHING Hot Summer Day"

Boys school offers scholarship grants

[illegible]

University grants scholarships to music-inclined students

[illegible]



SINGERS AND SCHOLARS—Members of the Feati University Choir use their voice as capital for acquiring good education.

[illegible]

Child artist holds exhibit of digital paintings

[illegible]



"MY AMAZING World of Colors"

[illegible]



[illegible]

Kids excel in recycled art contest

[illegible]

Art teachers honored

[illegible]



AL PEREZ EXHIBIT

[illegible]